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# Halifax metro



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Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, MARCH 4-6, 2016

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## City seeking e-voting bids

### ELECTIONS

**Winner would be backup in case Intelivote can't continue**



**Zane Woodford**  
Metro | Halifax

Halifax Regional Municipality is looking for a backup company to handle telephone and electronic voting in the next municipal election after fears that the company that holds the contract is financially unstable.

A tender posted Thursday seeks bids from companies that could administer telephone and e-voting for October's 2016 municipal and school board elections, and any special elections after that until

April 2020.

But the winning bidder's services will only be needed if the company that already has a standing offer — Dartmouth-based Intelivote — is unable to do the job.

"It's not at all saying we have given up on Intelivote. In fact they are still our prime, preferred vendor, and we are hopeful that they will be able to do the election," municipal spokesman Brendan Elliott said Thursday.

"But we want to be able to make sure that we've got all our bases covered, and for a contract as critical as this one, we want to be able to have someone in place in case, for whatever reason, Intelivote isn't in a position to be able to hold an e-vote election in the fall."

Council voted in December to defer decisions on taking \$2.2 million out of its reserve budgets for e-voting, and whether it would even use e-voting in the next election

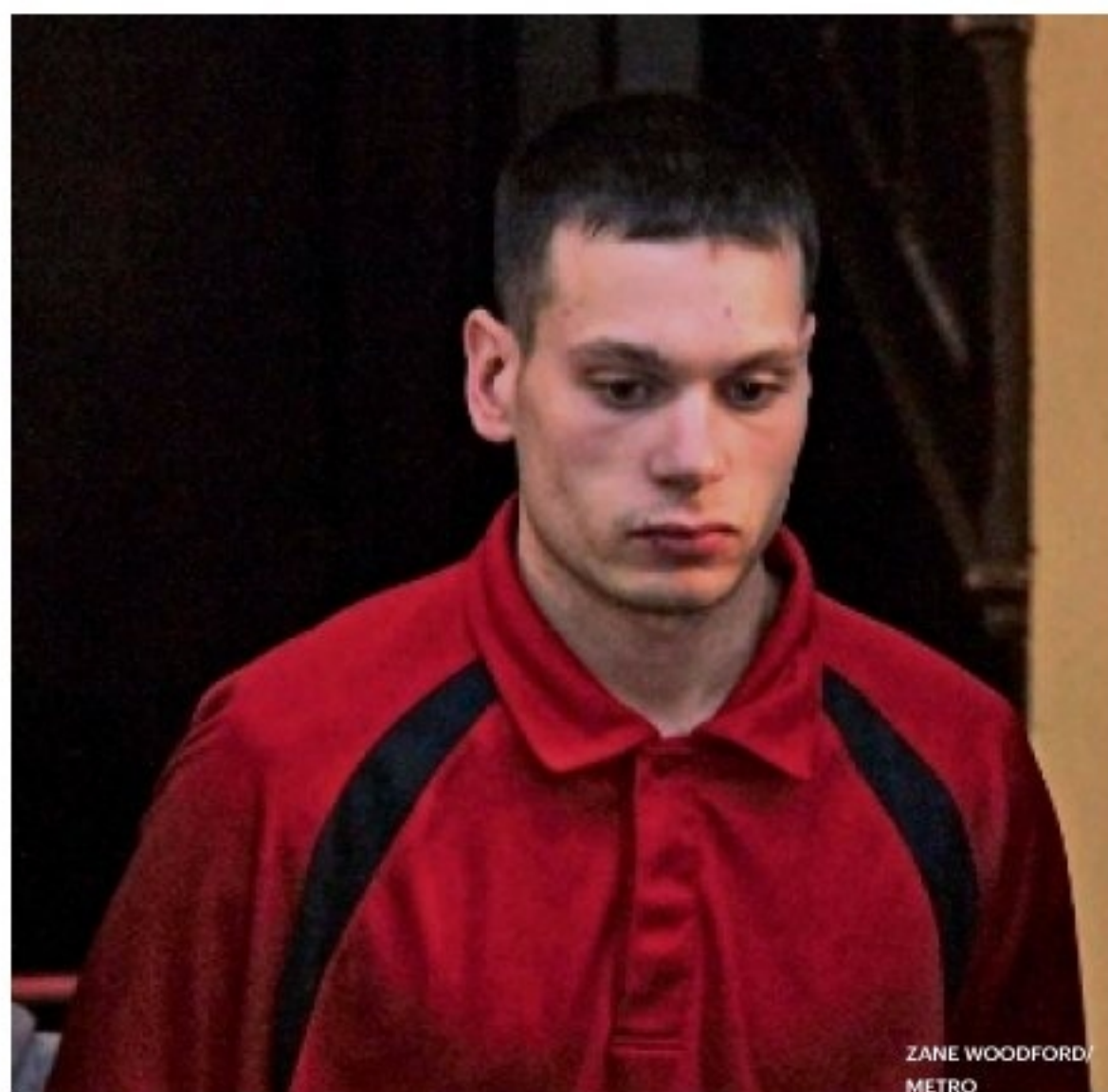
after the municipality learned that Intelivote was in fiscal hot water.

Intelivote president Dean Smith said Thursday that the nearly \$500,000 standing offer with HRM would provide the financial stability to do the job, and his company is also planning to team up with another one, ScytI, to get the job done.

"Once we landed the Halifax contract, it was just a matter of time whether or not we could prove that we were financially fit enough to do it, and the arrangement we've made with ScytI guarantees that," Smith said.

ScytI came in second place in the last bidding process, ahead of two other companies that bid on the standing offer.

The tender closes Mar. 17, and a report will likely go to council to approve Intelivote and ScytI's arrangement, or scrap e-voting altogether for 2016.



## SUSPECT IN COURT

**Benjamin Joshua Gillis charged with second-degree murder** metroNEWS

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First-year Nova Scotia Community College social services students Jennilee Creaser-Batherson, left, Jaiden Murphy-Ingram and Brittany Foran organized an art drive through Shelter Nova Scotia. Foran says public response to their drive has been overwhelmingly positive, noting people have donated extra crayons, pencils and paper. JEFF HARPER/METRO

# Students lead art supplies drive for homeless shelter

## FUNDRAISING

### Donations will help get new program off the ground



**Yvette d'Entremont**  
Metro | Halifax

A group of students organizing an art supplies collection drive hope their project helps bring art and some joy into the lives of homeless people.

This Sunday, the Nova Scotia Community College students will be collecting art supplies to help Shelter Nova Scotia de-

liver an art program to homeless men at Halifax's Metro Turning Point shelter.

The group began brainstorming ideas for their community development class project last month. They initially planned to run a toy drive, but after a few phone calls discovered another need.

"We contacted Shelter Nova Scotia and (were told) that ... what they were actually in need of was art supplies because they were getting ready to do an art program and didn't have the supplies," student Jennilee Creaser-Batherson recalled Thursday.

"We got quite excited when they presented the idea back to us because it can branch out and you don't need any special-

ized training. You can just go and get your emotions and get your thoughts and feelings out on a piece of paper, and in a non-judgemental way."

The three students set up a donation box at the Irving gas station in Eastern Passage



**You can surprise yourself once you're given the space and time to create.** Colleen Ritchie

ahead of Sunday's collection drive and said feedback and response has been positive.

"People have been super excited because it's not just a regular drive. People are so used to being asked for cans of food and things like that

so this is so unique," said Brittany Foran, another student organizer.

"A lot of people come in and they say 'our kids went to school and they had so many extra crayons, pencils we have so much extra paper at our

house.' It's easy for them to bring it in. They are seeing the benefit in art classes and how it will help."

Shelter Nova Scotia spokeswoman Colleen Ritchie said Thursday how the art program will look depends on the

amount of art supplies collected during this weekend's art drive.

"The goal is for sure to set aside time once a month (at Metro Turning Point) then grow it into a once a week thing to start," Ritchie said.

"Our women's shelter has done similar projects in the past and they have a student coming in doing a placement in April and her focus is art and creativity so if we get enough supplies we'll segment some of those supplies for her and the women at Barry House."

Ritchie said the students have inspired her with their project, and their initiative will be a major benefit to her organization's clients.

"It will give them a more introspective time and some

## + FACEBOOK

The Halifax Art Drive happens Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Halifax Shopping Centre. Art supplies, gift certificates and financial donations are all being accepted. More information is on the group's Facebook page.

time to maybe express themselves in a way they don't have access to," Ritchie said.

"To be able to have something, to be able to look at something that they created, well, there's joy in that in and of itself."



## SAMBRO BEACH

# Indecent act sparks police investigation



**Yvette d'Entremont**  
Metro | Halifax

Halifax police are investigating an indecent act that took place Tuesday at Crystal Crescent Beach.

Shortly after 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, police received a report about a man seen masturbating at the Sambro beach on March 1.

Halifax Regional Police were told the same man had approached a woman walking her dog on the same beach

10 days earlier. During that earlier incident, the man told the woman after a brief conversation that he was going to masturbate, according to a news release sent out Thursday.

The suspect is described as a white man in his late 30s, about five-foot-11, with a medium build and short dark hair. He spoke with a British accent. He was wearing a black down jacket and light khaki pants.

Police are asking anyone with information about this incident or similar incidents to contact them at 902-490-5016.

## IN BRIEF

### Police search for suspect in transit sex assault

Police are investigating a sexual assault that took place last Thursday on a Halifax Transit bus.

On Wednesday, police received a report that on Feb. 25, a male passenger on a Halifax Transit bus sexually assaulted a female passenger while she slept. A news release from Halifax Regional Police said the victim woke up to find the other passenger "touching her in a sexual manner" over her clothing.

The culprit was described as male, about five-foot-eight, with a slim build, a tattoo of what appeared to be a name on the left side of his neck and three piercings in his left ear. The suspect exited the Route 4 bus on Joseph Howe Drive.

YVETTE D'ENTREMONT/METRO

### Man arrested after armed robbery at variety store

Police have arrested a man in connection with a robbery Wednesday night at a Halifax convenience store.

Officers responded to the report of an armed robbery at Tony's Variety on Robie Street at about 10 p.m.

"A male entered the store and produced what was believed to be a firearm and demanded cash and cigarettes," the release reads.

The suspect took off "with an undisclosed amount of cash and cigarettes."

No store employees were injured during the incident.

At about 1 a.m. on Thursday, a 22-year-old male from Halifax was taken into custody. METRO



Police cordon off an area for investigators at the scene of a homicide on Autumn Drive in Spryfield on Thursday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

# Murder suspect makes first court appearance

## SPRYFIELD

## Police say stabbing was no random act



**Zane Woodford**  
Metro | Halifax

The man charged with murder in the stabbing of another man in Spryfield on Wednesday made his first appearance in court Thursday.

Benjamin Joshua Gillis, 25, was arrested at an apartment on Inglis Street on Wednesday afternoon. He appeared briefly in Halifax provincial court Thursday to face a charge of second-degree murder in the killing of Blaine Gordon Clothier, 26.

Gillis will remain in custody until his next appearance March 24, when he'll set a date for a preliminary inquiry if the Crown has provided sufficient disclosure of the evidence against him.

Gillis would have to apply in Nova Scotia Supreme Court

for bail. Defence lawyer Kishan Persaud said he was only representing Gillis as duty counsel for his first appearance.

Halifax police spokeswoman Const. Dianne Woodworth confirmed Thursday afternoon that the killing was not a random act. "They were known to each other; we have confirmed that," she said.

Woodworth said an autopsy completed Thursday confirmed Clothier's identity and the cause of death.

Police originally responded

to a report of an unresponsive male in an apartment building on Autumn Drive at about 12:16 p.m. on Wednesday and found a man dead inside.

More than half a dozen police vehicles, several officers and a police dog were on the scene Wednesday afternoon.

Officers appeared to be searching for evidence in dumpsters and green bins behind the Autumn Drive building and across the street. They were also seen questioning residents who live in the area.

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This season, embracing your hair's natural texture is all the rage, but that's no reason to let dryness and frizz take root. Everything from indoor heating to wool hats can wreck your hair during the winter, so get a head start on recovering your strands with a shampoo that strengthens and rejuvenates hair.

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### TIP

Use the low-heat option on your hair dryer to help prevent damage

## fresh start

You've spent all winter hiding under layers of clothes, but with the right tools, it's easy to embrace the beautiful weather and look your best. Look for hard-working products that'll make hair removal a cinch from now 'til the end of summer. Treat your teeth by switching to a deep-cleaning and whitening toothpaste that will help remove surface stains.

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# Students feel left out in the cold

## EDUCATION

### Crowd outside minister's office picket tuition, assault policies

**Dylan DesRoche**  
For Metro | Halifax

Students from across Nova Scotia are not happy, and on Thursday they decided to let Kelly Regan, minister of Labour and Advanced Education, know just that.

A small crowd of university and college students from across the province braved chilly temperatures to protest outside Regan's constituency office in Bedford early Thursday.

"We have two demands," said Hannah Kaya, who serves as the outgoing external vice-president of the University of King's College student union.

"We're asking that Minister Kelly Regan commit to passing legislation that would mandate sexual assault policy on our campuses, and we're asking



Students protest outside Kelly Regan's office Thursday in Bedford. JEFF HARPER/METRO

she commit to objecting the reset," Kaya told Metro during the protest.

The students are upset with universities and colleges across the province who plan to raise tuitions following the one-year removal of the province's cap on that cost.

Removing the cap allows uni-

versities to adjust their tuitions this year and they will be locked in next year, meaning the increases are here to stay.

"It's essentially been a tuition free-for-all — we're seeing tuition go up by as much as 37 per cent," said Kaya. "The government's making education impossible for students to

afford."

At Dalhousie University, one of the schools planning to raise tuition, students have already been feeling some financial pressure.

Dalhousie student union representatives told Metro on Wednesday that they have had a surge of students using their

food bank, with nearly 200 students relying on it to eat.

Brian Leadbetter, director of communications and public relations with Dalhousie University, said he was not aware of the specifics about the amount of students using the food bank.

"We certainly do appreciate the concerns and challenges that our students do face," Leadbetter told Metro on Thursday. "We will attempt to increase and improve students supports as best we can."

The students are also frustrated with the Liberal government's blocking of Bill 114, the Safer Universities and Colleges Act.

The act requires all post-secondary schools to have sexual assault policies, and to make the public aware of all sexual assaults that occur on campus.

"This is a bill students have been rallying support for," Kaya said. "We've dropped off thousands of postcards and the minister refuses to pass it."

Students are worried that the universities are not backing the bill because announcing the assaults would make their schools look bad.

## + THE RESPONSE

### Memorandum in the works

Labour and Advanced Education Minister Kelly Regan acknowledged Thursday her party didn't support Bill 114, but added it's a matter of privacy, not of principle.

"Nova Scotia has a number of small universities, and stakeholders have told us that tracking and publicly reporting sexual assaults in smaller jurisdictions could identify the victims," Kelly Regan said in an email statement to Metro. Despite the Liberal Government's blocking of the Safer Universities and Colleges Act, Regan said a new memorandum of understanding is in the works to address students' concerns.

"We are finalizing a new MOU with our 10 universities, which will require institutions to have standalone sexual assault and sexual violence policies."

Regan is also confident students will still be able to afford school despite tuition hikes, with the help of the province.

## UNDER INVESTIGATION

### Police investigating racist graffiti

The RCMP is investigating racial slurs against indigenous people that were spray-painted on a home in northern Nova Scotia.

Police in Antigonish

say the graffiti appeared on a house and shed in Monastery on Tuesday night.

They say the graffiti was "racially and culturally insensitive" and included profanity and derogatory comments about

indigenous people.

Police say it's not a random act. They are asking anyone with information about the case to call the RCMP, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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**February 29 until April 25 2016.**

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[halifax.ca/mediaroom](http://halifax.ca/mediaroom)

### Schedule "B"

1. WINDGATE DRIVE.....	FROM BEAVER BANK ROAD EASTERLY 1.2 KM
2. BEAVER BANK ROAD.....	WINDGATE DRIVE TO SACKVILLE DR
3. BISSETT ROAD.....	COLE HARBOUR ROAD TO BISSETT LAKE ROAD
4. COBEQUID ROAD.....	SACKVILLE DRIVE TO ROCKY LAKE DRIVE
5. COLE HARBOUR ROAD.....	CALDWELL ROAD TO ROSS ROAD
6. COW BAY ROAD.....	MAIN ROAD TO CALDWELL ROAD
7. DUKE STREET.....	ROCKY LAKE DRIVE TO HIGHWAY 102
8. MAIN ROAD.....	BELMONT AVENUE TO COW BAY ROAD
9. ESTATES ROAD.....	GLENDAL AVE SOUTHERLY TO END OF PAVEMENT
10. FOREST HILLS DRIVE.....	MAIN STREET TO COLE HARBOUR ROAD
11. GLENDAL AVENUE.....	COBEQUID ROAD TO HIGHWAY 102
12. HAMMONDS PLAINS RD.....	LARRY UTECK BOULEVARD TO HIGHWAY 103
13. LAKE MAJOR ROAD.....	IN TOTAL
14. LUCASVILLE ROAD.....	SACKVILLE DRIVE TO HEFLER'S MILL
15. ROCKY LAKE DRIVE.....	DUKE STREET TO HIGHWAY 2
16. SACKVILLE DRIVE.....	HIGHWAY 102 TO PATTON ROAD IN UPPER SACKVILLE
17. ST. MARGARET'S BAY RD.....	PROSPECT ROAD TO HIGHWAY 103, EXIT 4 IN TIMBERLEA
18. HIGHWAY 2.....	ROCKY LAKE DRIVE TO SUNNYLEA ROAD IN WELLINGTON
19. MAIN STREET.....	RIDGECREST DRIVE TO LITTLE SALMON RIVER BRIDGE
20. HERRING COVE ROAD.....	OLD HALIFAX CITY BOUNDARY TO HERRING COVE
21. EVERGREEN PLACE.....	IN TOTAL
22. WINDSOR JUNCTION RD.....	400 METRES NORTH FROM COBEQUID ROAD
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# Ice skating over, inline to begin



Brooks Carmody, a site supervisor at the Emera Oval, cleans up some of the leaves that had blown onto the melting ice Monday. The oval on the Halifax Common is now closed for ice skating, but will open Friday for inline skating. JEFF HARPER/METRO

## RECREATION

### Outdoor surface will be open starting 10 a.m. Friday



**Yvette d'Entremont**  
Metro | Halifax

Unseasonably warm temperatures may have led to the end of ice skating on the Emera Oval for this winter season, but the outdoor facility on the Halifax Common will be re-purposed for inline skating beginning Friday morning.

Municipal parks and recreation staff were preparing the oval to accommodate inline skating over the next few days.

Ice chillers were turned off and staff were preparing the surface and stocking the Pavilion building with free inline skates and related equipment.

Staff were slightly ahead of schedule.

Halifax Regional Municipality announced Thursday afternoon that the oval would be

reopen for inline skating in time for a 10 a.m. public skate on Friday morning, weather permitting.

"Typically the winter session is scheduled to run until the end of March Break so we budget for that," said municipal spokeswoman Tiffany Chase.

"Staff got to work really very quickly because they wanted to make sure the public had continued access to the facility because it is so popular, especially over the March Break."

Inline skates, helmets and other equipment will be available in child to adult size options for free with a government issued I.D. All users are required to wear a helmet while using inline skates, bikes, scooters, etc.

The facility will be open on a posted public skating schedule (including continuation of free lessons) through to the final weekend of March Break.

At that time, the Emera Oval will close for the winter season and begin official preparations for the summer skating season later this year.

## COMMUNITY PROJECT

### Urban farms get funding boost



**Haley Ryan**  
Metro | Halifax

Patients at a Dartmouth hospital and local residents will have more opportunity to see their food growing alongside the water thanks to a funding boost.

Hillary Lindsay, co-ordinator of the Back to Our Roots (BTOR) Urban Farm at the Nova Scotia Hospital, said Thursday she was happy to hear their project was selected for one of the \$3,500 grants through Fiskars' annual Project Orange Thumb.

"It was a nice surprise and a nice thing to start the growing season with," Lindsay said.

The farm broke ground last May, and Lindsay said the money means they can buy new rakes and shovels instead of continuing to use the few rusty tools and ones that weren't working well.

A good portion will also go into increasing the fertility of the soil used for the garden since what's there now isn't the best, Lindsay said, and it's important to get good compost to enrich the soil every year in order to grow healthy vegetables.

Lindsay said they will also likely expand the overall size of the project, with more room for community plots, market garden and common area where round plots are set aside for



Breaking ground at the Back to Our Roots urban farm last year.

METRO FILE

**“It was a nice surprise.”**  
Hillary Lindsay

general experimenting.

Locals can rent four-by-12 plots, while Lindsay said some mental health and addictions patients at the hospital have their own plots for vegetables like lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers and herbs, or attend workshops.

"It's really great to have your hands in the soil and just seeing something grow and being out in the sunshine," Lindsay said.

There's the added benefit of exercise, and you get healthy vegetables on the other side, she

added. Even those patients who don't garden themselves enjoy walking by the water along the garden paths or looking at the activity through their windows, Lindsay said.

"There's just that added bonus of seeing things thriving and growing and changing," Lindsay said.

Fiskars' other Nova Scotia grant was handed to Northwood for their community garden at their Bedford location due to their focus on accessibility for older people and those less mobile.

Having the garden be wheelchair accessible so any resident in care could go right up to their plot and participate was "really striking," the company said.

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COAST GUARD

## Icebergs off Labrador

Hundreds of icebergs are cruising south down the coast of Labrador.

But experts say that doesn't necessarily mean people will be able to see the frosty creations close to shore this spring.

Byron Briggs, superintendent of ice operations for the Canadian Coast Guard, says there are more than 600 icebergs in the waters off northern Labrador.

He says there is a huge increase in the number of ice-

bergs north of 50 degrees latitude from recent years, but they're well offshore.

A number of icebergs have been spotted along the east coast of the province in recent weeks with pictures circulating on social media.

Briggs says it usually takes icebergs a year and a half to two years to move from Greenland, up into Baffin Bay and then down along the coast of Labrador.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRAGEDY

### New Brunswick family loses teen in fire, now dealing with displacement

Officials are investigating a house fire that killed a 16-year-old boy and displaced his family in New Brunswick.

The Canadian Red Cross says it is helping the family of five in Bathurst.

The house fire was reported at about 4 a.m. Tuesday.

The couple and three of

the children, ranging in age from eight to 17, were not home at the time.

But the 16-year-old boy was believed to be sleeping in a basement bedroom.

It was that room which sustained the most damage.

The Red Cross says it has helped the family with emergency purchases and a place to stay temporarily.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Bluenose II rebuild set to hit \$25M

HERITAGE

## Reworking of schooner plagued with technical issues

The costly rebuild of Canada's most famous schooner, which even Nova Scotia's premier has called a "boondoggle," is expected to hit at least \$25 million as technical problems continue to plague the project.

The province announced Thursday it will replace the Bluenose II's troublesome three-tonne rudder and steering system, the latest development in a saga that saw the replica vessel hit the water more than four years late.

"This was terribly managed out of the gate," said Nova Scotia Transportation Minister Geoff MacLellan.

"Here we are today still dealing with problems."

The 43-metre vessel — among the province's most enduring symbols — is a replica of the original Grand Banks fishing schooner that won worldwide fame for its design and speed.

But the decision to restore the replica, which replaced so much of the Bluenose II it is almost entirely new construction, has proven expensive and troublesome.

Even before the rudder is replaced, the cost is pegged at \$23.8 million. That's \$9.4 million more than the \$14.4 million estimated when the restoration project was announced in 2009.

The installation of the controversial steel rudder, more than 10 times heavier than the original's wooden rudder, was singled out in a report last year by the province's auditor general as adding significant costs to the project.

Those costs included a \$700,000 hydraulic steering system that was needed to deal with the terrific force required to turn the rudder for the 300-tonne ship.

"This is a symptom of the original set of problems identified by the auditor general," said MacLellan of the report's recommendation.

A \$30,000 report by U.S.-based Langan Design Partners LLC, released Thursday, says

that without a replacement the weight of the current rudder would change the shape of the vessel and shorten its life span.

It says the total steering weight had increased "dramatically" from the 400 kilogram weight of the wooden rudder and steering system of the original vessel built in 1921, to the current 4,461.3 kilogram weight.

The consultants recommend replacing it with either a wooden rudder or a composite made of Fiberglass with a carbon stock.

"Subjectively it is the opinion of the authors of this report that the current design is out of place on a vessel built to bring back to life one of the most notable designs of the early 20th century, and whose reputation was built upon exceptional speed."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



**This was terribly managed out of the gate.**

Geoff MacLellan

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# Women's group heading to New York for UN event

## STATUS OF WOMEN

**Focus will be empowerment related to sustainability**



**Haley Ryan**  
Metro | Halifax

Ideas about food security and sustainability from the United Nations' Commission on the Status of Women (CSW60) will be coming back to Halifax.

Nova Scotia Voice of Women for Peace (NSVOW) is sending six younger delegates and a few long-time members of the group to the 60th commission in New York from March 13-24, with the theme of women's empowerment related to sustainability.

"I'm feeling really excited," said delegate Erica Fraser, 26.

"We've got a lot of work to do in building community and increasing our resilience as a province, and I think that young women have a really, really ... strong position in that."

As a biologist, craft brewery employee and community facilitator in Halifax's north end, Fraser said she's especially interested in picking up ideas on grassroots movements related to food and farming that could work here.

Part of Fraser's job is working with Halifax's mobile food



**SOCK ROLLER DERBY EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN** Junior and senior high school students from schools across Nova Scotia take part in a Sock Roller Derby workshop with the Anchor City Rollers at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax on Thursday. The workshop was part of the 5th annual Girls Conference. JEFF HARPER/METRO

market project and a community garden, and she said there's lots of potential in connecting with others to gather inspiration from similar projects.

"I think women have a really, really strong position in bringing basically higher levels of food security to communities," Fraser said. "All we have to do is reach out."



**Women are an under-developed resource. We have ... a holistic, less hierarchical perspective.**

NSVOW member Sarah Mordan

The group is hosting a "Sustain Her" fundraiser at Veith House on Saturday from 6 to 9 p.m., with a goal of \$5,000 to

help trip expenses, said long-time NSVOW member and conference attendee Sarah Mordan.

Mordan said there will be

music, a silent auction, food, a draw and stories from the summer peace campers headed to New York.

It's important to have women involved in sustainability conversations because they're often responsible for farming and food production in many parts of the world, Mordan said. Even backyard gardens can be a huge start.

## + EVENTS

**Multiple events are being held in Halifax this week and next related to International Women's Day on March 8.**

- The Women Refugees Access to Education, Employment & Resources symposium takes place on Saint Mary's University campus Friday starting at 10 a.m. in partnership with SMU and MSVU.

- The Burke Theatre is hosting a panel on how students and staff can help refugee students, as well as guest speaker Gina Kokoska on how immigration status can be a barrier to services, employment and education.

- Next week, Dalhousie University is hosting a panel on the politics of credibility called The Jian Ghomeshi Trial: Fifty Ways to Discredit Your Complainant, on March 8 from 4-5:30 p.m. at the Life Sciences Centre.

- Also on March 8 at 7 p.m. is a screening and discussion of Wadja, a film about a Saudi girl's plan to win a Koran-recitation competition and buy a bicycle with the winnings, in Room 406 of the Dalhousie Art Centre.

- A keynote address, Dying from Improvement: Inquests and Inquiries into Indigenous Deaths in Custody is March 10 from 1-2:30 p.m. at Alumni Hall at the University of King's College. METRO

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## IN BRIEF

### Jail guards say health in danger from inmate attacks using fluids

A union representing prison guards says its members should be told an inmate's medical history if they come into contact with their bodily fluids.

The Union of Canadian Correctional Officers says prisoners at the Atlantic Institution in New Brunswick have attacked guards with blood, urine and excrement in recent weeks.

The group says guards are not allowed to know if an inmate has a disease that could jeopardize their health.

The union is pushing for a blood samples act that would reveal an inmate's medical information following such an attack.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## WELTON'S LANDING

### 'More smoke than fire' at former plant

According to Kentville fire chief Ryan MacEachern, there was "more smoke than fire" to an alarm March 3 at a former feather plant at Welton's Landing on Highway 12.

Kentville firefighters responded to the original alarm at 12:34 p.m. Mutual aid was dispatched from New Minas and Waterville and District as part of the regional mutual aid protocol for confirmed structure fires.

Additional mutual aid was provided from Waterville and District, Greenwich, Canning, Port Williams and Berwick, while the Greenwich and Wolfville departments each sent a unit to stand in at the Kentville station.

Contacted around 5 p.m., Chief MacEachern confirmed the building had not been used as

a feather plant for several years.

"The owners were looking to clean up the property and were working with welding torches," he said. They were on their lunch break when a hot ember ignited some debris on the floor.

On the arrival of the first firefighters, black smoke was visible coming from the building. MacEachern said the smoke looked bigger than the fire turned out to be.

As the building is in the process of being "cleaned up for environmental purposes," there was no insurance.

MacEachern confirmed there were several pieces of heavy equipment inside the building. "They weren't anywhere near the fire, so there was no damage.

KINGS COUNTY REGISTER - TC MEDIA



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Topcuts Salons • Cora Breakfast and Lunch  
City Centre Atlantic Periodontics -  
Dr. Stacey Matheson

Studio in Essence  
FYidoctors • Fit 4 Less by Goodlife  
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Colchester County Coun. Lloyd Gibbs of Lower Harmony shows where rats have chewed holes in his compost green bin to get at the food scraps inside. TRURO DAILY NEWS

## Green bins a rat's delight

### PEST CONTROL

### Complaints over rodent population on the rise

When Marcia Meyers set out a live trap in her garage for an unwanted intruder, she expected to capture a stray kitten.

"We ended up with a rat in the live trap," the Debert resident said.

After disposing of the critter and thinking the problem was resolved, however, Meyers and her roommate discovered the problem was bigger than just one wayward rodent.

"My concern is they are absolutely disgusting," she said of the additional rats that have appeared. "They're nasty. There's like 25 diseases a rat can carry to transfer to people and that doesn't include any of the diseases our pets can end up catching or anything else they can end up with."

Meyers said she keeps nothing in her garage that would attract rats. Even her cat and two large dogs have failed to act as a deterrent.

While trying to find a remedy to her problem, Meyers discovered she is far from alone.

"There's a huge issue right across the entire province right now with rats, and if people aren't doing their part we are going to end up with a major problem," she said.

John Zinck, a branch manager for the pest control company Orkin Canada, agreed the problem is widespread and that rodent issues are definitely on the rise.

A big source of that problem are the compost green bins intended to reduce the amount

of garbage going into municipal landfills.

"Actually, all over Nova Scotia this year, rodents have been up quite a bit from what I've noticed," Zinck said. "I think you will see more rodents around the urban areas for sure."

That is especially so in areas such as Halifax, where many of the houses are attached or otherwise situated very close together.

"You look in the backyards and it's just one bin after another. So you're just putting out a tremendous amount of food... and rodents will go where the food is, unfortunately. So it will be an ongoing issue, I believe."

And not just in urban areas, as both Meyers and Colchester County Councillor Lloyd Gibbs can attest.

Gibbs, who lives in Lower Harmony, said he and his rural neighbours are also dealing with rats that come to feed from their compost bins. In his case, the rats have even chewed through the bin's plastic grating to access the waste inside.

"It's a real problem and I don't know what we're going to do with it," he said, during a recent council meeting.

TRURO DAILY NEWS

### + RAT FACTS

■ Rats can have as many as six litters per year with as many as four to eight (and sometimes more) "kittens" or "pups" per litter.

■ The gestation period for rats is between 30 and 45 days (some say it can be as little as 21 days).

### TOURISM

## Trump hate a 'gift that keeps on giving'

Nova Scotia is moving to capitalize on its moment in the spotlight provided by the leather-lunged billionaire now enjoying a yuuuge lead in the U.S. Republican primary race.

Tourism Nova Scotia is re-directing some of its advertising budget toward Google ads targeting people intrigued by the now-famous Cape Breton If Donald Trump Wins website.

"Although it's been a fun



Donald Trump  
THE CANADIAN PRESS

story, we're also trying to take advantage and monetize it," said Martha Stevens, acting CEO of Tourism Nova Scotia.

"It's been a wonderful gift that keeps on giving."

The website, created by

Cape Breton radio host Rob Calabrese, facetiously tempts Americans dismayed by the prospect of a President Donald Trump to relocate to the hard-pressed but beautiful island.

The site has attracted about 800,000 unique visitors since Feb. 15 — most of them from the United States.

Tourism Nova Scotia said Thursday that traffic to novascotia.com, the province's main tourism site, was up

44 per cent in mid-February, while its Cape Breton page had a 975 per cent increase in site entrances.

Stevens said a portion of the \$5 million her Crown corporation spends on advertising will be re-directed toward Google ads targeting people who've shown an interest.

The ads will not mention Trump, she said. They will target people in key tourism markets. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# Carbon pricing accord

## CLIMATE CHANGE

### Ministers in agreement, with regional adaptations

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Canada's premiers have agreed that carbon pricing will be part of any national plan to address climate change.

He said they will study pricing options that would be adapted to the specific circumstances of each province and territory.

The working group is one of four announced by Trudeau in Vancouver on Thursday after a day-long climate-change meeting with first ministers.

Trudeau said they are to meet again in the fall when the working groups are to report back.

"The commitment we made today, with the Vancouver Declaration, shows all first ministers in this country united on carbon pricing mechanisms," he said.

"The fact that we have consensus on the need to include carbon pricing in our approach to addressing climate change



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau leads Canada's premiers to a news conference during the First Ministers Meeting in Vancouver on Thursday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

right across the country is a great thing indeed."

He added he's happy there's a plan to move forward while respecting regional differences.

"The working group that we have put together will dig into the mechanisms that will be

most effective and most appropriate for each jurisdiction, recognizing that there are areas that face greater challenges."

The federal government has been quietly insisting for weeks that a national carbon price, as promised in the Liberal election

platform, will be imposed from above if provinces are unable to agree. The day started with several premiers pushing back against that federal resolve.

Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil suggested there was "more than one way to deal

## + MANITOBA

Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger, who faces re-election this spring, said there's a common understanding among premiers that action on climate change can and should take many paths. "The do-nothing option is not there," he said.

with the carbon issue."

He said Atlantic Canada's heavy spending on hydro-electric transmission has effectively already built in a carbon price with electricity rates that are the highest in Canada.

Yukon Premier Darrell Pasloski said he and his fellow territorial premiers are against imposing additional costs on consumers of fossil fuels in the North.

Brad Wall of Saskatchewan came to Vancouver warning against a carbon tax in a fragile Canadian economy, but cleared the air Wednesday by saying his province would participate "constructively" in any working groups. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## BORDER

### Police project delayed

A Canada-U.S. initiative to create new, cross-border law-enforcement teams has been "postponed" due to unresolved concerns about how to treat police officers accused of breaking the law.

The so-called next-generation border project has been put off as discussions continue with U.S. officials — almost four years after pilot projects were supposed to begin, said Staff Sgt. Julie Gagnon, a force spokeswoman.

The initiative — part of the 2011 Canada-U.S. perimeter security pact — would see the two countries build on joint border-policing efforts by creating integrated teams in areas such as intelligence and criminal investigations.

Two pilot projects were supposed to get underway by summer 2012.

But in 2013, it emerged that the effort was being held up by the difficult question of which country's legal system would apply if a police officer were accused of breaking the law.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Duck Run

Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

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Acadia Recreation Club



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## MADAGASCAR

### Vet learning to protect lemurs

Meg Crane  
For Metro

A Malagasy veterinarian has arrived in Canada to get firsthand surgery training in hopes of sparing Madagascar's native

wildlife, such as lemurs, from being decimated by strays.

Hoping to learn the skills to spay and neuter wildlife in Winnipeg, Rajaonarivelo left Madagascar for the first time on Feb. 26.

Jonas Watson, of Tuxedo Ani-

mal Hospital, says veterinary schools in Madagascar offer no practical training. Watson is one of the vets behind Mad Dog Initiative, an organization that goes to Madagascar to trap, spay or neuter and release stray cats and dogs.



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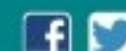


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Mitt Romney, top left, gives a speech on the state of the Republican party in Salt Lake City, Utah, Thursday. Romney spoke about Donald Trump, right, calling him a fraud and arguing against his nomination, a sentiment Sen. John McCain, bottom right, agreed with. GETTY IMAGES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Trump levelled by McCain, Romney

## POLITICS

### Ex-presidential nominees urge GOP to shun front-runner

In an extraordinary display of Republican chaos, the party's most recent presidential nominees, Mitt Romney and John McCain, lambasted current front-runner Donald Trump on Thursday, calling him unfit for office and a danger for the nation and the GOP.

"His is not the temperament of a stable, thoughtful leader," Romney declared. He called Trump "a phoney" who is "playing the American public for suckers," a man whose "imagination must not be married to real power."

Hours later, Trump lashed

back, calling Romney "a choke artist" who lost to Barack Obama four years ago only because he was such a poor candidate.

The vicious feud marked a near-unprecedented scenario pitting the Republican Party's most prominent leaders, past and present, against each other as Democrats begin to unite around Hillary Clinton.

The GOP's 2008 nominee, Arizona Sen. McCain, joined in, raising "many concerns about Mr. Trump's uninformed and indeed dangerous statements on national security issues." That echoes the worries of dozens of leading conservative defence and foreign policy officials.

The back-and-forth came as the Republican candidates prepared for their first post-Super Tuesday debate Thursday night in Detroit. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## + TALKING BACK

### Kelly prepares for debate

All eyes were on Megyn Kelly and Donald Trump during Fox News Channel's Megyn Kelly in Thursday's Republican presidential debate. She said she prepared the same "tough but fair" questions for him as she does for other candidates.

Kelly and Trump clashed during the first GOP debate last summer. Trump then boycotted an Iowa debate that Fox telecast in January after the network refused to remove Kelly as one of the moderators.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## IN BRIEF

### Man finds possible plane debris from Flight MH370

An American adventurer named Blaine Gibson said that he discovered part of an aircraft on a sandbar off the coast of Mozambique. The debris could be from the Malaysia Airlines flight that disappeared two years ago with 239 people aboard. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Cholera kills scores in Haiti

Cholera, which arrived in Haiti in October 2010, has sickened more than 770,000 people and killed more than 9,200. So far this year, it has sickened more than 6,000 and is killing an average of 37 people a month, according to the latest government figures. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Kalamazoo shooter to be examined before trial

A man charged in the fatal shooting of six people in southwestern Michigan will undergo a mental competency exam. Prosecutor Jeff Gettling said the review of Jason Dalton's mental health could delay the case by at least two months. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## REFUGEE CRISIS

# EU considers mass migrant deportation

Turkey is under growing pressure to consider a major escalation in migrant deportations from Greece, a top European Union official said Thursday, amid preparations for a highly anticipated summit of EU and Turkish leaders next week.

European Council President Donald Tusk ended a six-nation tour of migration crisis countries in Turkey, where 850,000 migrants and refugees left last year for Greek islands.

"We agree that the refugee flows still remain far too high," Tusk said after meeting Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu.

"To many in Europe, the most

promising method seems to be a fast and large-scale mechanism to ship back irregular migrants arriving in Greece. It would effectively break the business model of the smugglers."

Tusk was careful to single out illegal economic migrants for possible deportation, not asylum-seekers. And he wasn't clear who would actually carry out the expulsions.

Greek officials said Thursday that nearly 32,000 migrants were stranded in the country following a decision by Austria and four ex-Yugoslav countries to drastically reduce the number of transiting migrants.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Migrants queue outside the hospitality centre on the Greek Island of Samos. LEFERIS PITAKAKIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## MISSILE LAUNCH

# North Korea readying its nukes

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has ordered his country's nuclear weapons made ready for use at a moment's notice, the official state news agency reported Friday.

Kim also said his country will ready its military so it is prepared to carry out pre-emptive attacks, calling the current situation very precarious, according to KCNA.

On Thursday, North Korea fired six short-range projectiles into the sea off its east coast, South Korean officials said, just hours after the UN Security Council approved the toughest

sanctions on the North in two decades for its recent nuclear test and long-range rocket launch.

The firings also came shortly after South Korea's National Assembly passed its first legislation on human rights in North Korea.

North Korea routinely test-fires missiles and rockets, but often conducts weapons launches when angered at international condemnation. Thursday's firings were seen as a "low-level" response to the UN sanctions, with North Korea unlikely to launch any major provocation until its landmark ruling Work-

150 km

The North Korean projectiles flew about 100 to 150 kilometres before landing in the sea, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ers' Party convention in May, according to Yang Moo-jin, a professor at the University of North Korean Studies in Seoul.

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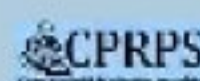
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# Festivals feel loonie's pinch

## ECONOMY

## Music and arts events booking more Canadian performers

The Toronto Sketch Comedy Festival has recruited some notable American names in the past, including Saturday Night Live star Kate McKinnon and writer-actor Michael Ian Black. But this year it will be an exclusively Canadian event for a reason that's no laughing matter: The low loonie means the fest can't afford to book international talent.

This year's lineup is all homegrown and a bit more eclectic than usual, with names including Rush guitarist Alex Lifeson and Dave Bidini of the Rheostatics, along with comedians Gavin Crawford, Jessica Holmes and Sean Cullen.

They may be household names on this side of the border, but the festival isn't expecting to sell as many tickets as in previous years.

"I think we probably will not," says Paul Snepsts, executive director of the event, which kicked off Thursday.

"That's not because of a lack of talent in this country. It just seems, and I think this is true in music as well as comedy, that we have a tendency to be prone to buying into something once it has achieved success elsewhere."

Some other arts festivals are also grappling with the weak dollar.

"We're feeling it somewhat," says Josh Grossman, artistic director of the TD Toronto Jazz Festival, which showcases talent from around the world.

Grossman says he's heard organizers of other festivals say the loonie is also affecting their approach to program-

### + FIRST VICTIM

#### Squamish Valley Music Festival cancelled

B.C.'s Squamish Valley Music Festival, which takes place in August, has officially been cancelled for 2016. Squamish Mayor Patricia Heintzman said organizers told her it was a "business decision," which she suspects was likely influenced by the low Canadian dollar.

METRO

ming.

He expects his festival may have to raise some ticket prices "a little bit."

"It's hard to say exactly, but a show that we might have been able to sell for \$25 last year is maybe going to be \$30 this year, that sort of thing," he says.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Janneke Coenen dances at the Squamish Valley Music Festival in August last year. The festival has been cancelled for 2016, and Squamish Mayor Patricia Heintzman suspects the dollar influenced that decision. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

## HEALTH

## Google joins the Zika fight

Google is donating \$1 million to fight the spread of the Zika virus and offering engineers and data scientists help to determine where it will hit next.

Zika has become an epidemic in Latin America and the Caribbean since last fall. The virus is mainly spread through mosquito bites and has been linked to birth defects.

Google said it is in a good position to assist since its mission is to help people find information, and it has experience analyzing large sets of data. The company has seen a more than 3,000 per cent increase in global search interest in Zika since November.

The Mountain View, Calif., company's grant will go to UNICEF and be used to help reduce mosquito populations and support the development of diagnostics and vaccines as well as work to prevent virus transmission.

Google's engineers are helping to build a platform to process data on things like weather and travel patterns to predict potential outbreaks. The company said the platform will be used to help government officials and others to decide where to focus their resources.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## FISHERIES

## Warmer ocean points to boom in lobster catch

Maine's lobster catches will likely peak early this year, which could mean an abundance of cheap lobster for consumers and bad news for the state's signature industry, a group of scientists reported Thursday.

Maine's busy summer lobster fishing season typically picks up around early July, the same time the state's tourism industry gets in gear. But scientists with the Portland-based Gulf of Maine Research Institute predict this year's lobster

season will get rolling two or three weeks early.

The scientists, who unveiled their findings during the Maine Fishermen's Forum in Rockport, pinned the early lobster season on warming ocean temperatures. Along Maine's coast, temperatures are higher than normal, which means lobsters are likely to move inshore, shed their shells and become more easily trapped earlier this summer, they said.

An early lobster season can disrupt Maine's valuable lob-

ster supply chain, which is partially dependent on big July and August catches, and make prices plummet. Prices at the dock fell 16 per cent in 2012, a year of early catches, and prices to consumers fell, too. The 2014 haul shattered state value records because of a high-volume catch that arrived on schedule.

"If the timing is off by just a few weeks, it can have a major impact throughout the supply chain," said Andrew Pershing, the chief scientific officer with



Scientists predict this year's lobster season will begin two or three weeks early. ISTOCK

the research institute.

Maine is by far the most productive lobster fishing state in the country, accounting for more than 80 per cent of the haul in 2014, and the industry has been riding a wave of heavy hauls and high values in recent years.

Annual lobster catches in the U.S. grew from 71.7 million pounds in 2003 to about 148 million pounds in 2014. The total value of the catch about doubled in that time.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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**8:20**  
WEEKDAY MORNINGS



Stress and grief can trigger heart trouble. A new study shows joyous events like becoming a grandparent can break your heart too.

## DECODED

# 'Just following orders'

That was the catchphrase of the **Milgram experiments**, some of the most infamous studies in the history of science. In the 1960s, psychologist Stanley Milgram believed he'd proven regular people could be easily convinced to inflict what they thought was a painful, or even deadly, electric shock on somebody if they were ordered to by an authority figure. He said it was a profound insight into the minds of perpetrators of atrocities like the Holocaust. But reputable science must be replicable. And the Milgram experiments, which required that researchers tell people to harm others, were so ethically problematic that there was no way to repeat them in a modern lab. But now, someone has tried.

### The original Milgram experiments

Stanley Milgram, 1963

**EXPERIMENTER**

As the "shocks" and screams got more intense, the lab assistant delivered lines from a script if participants started to express doubts. First "Please continue," then "The experiment requires that you continue," then "It is absolutely essential that you continue" and finally "You have no other choice, you must go on."

**'TEACHER'**

**LEARNER (ACTOR)**

**STUDY TITLE: BEHAVIOURAL STUDY OF OBEDIENCE**

**Method:** The volunteer research subject, called "the teacher," read a list of words for "the learner," an actor who was hooked up to a (fake) shock machine in another room, out of sight. If the learner made a mistake repeating the words, the teacher was instructed to deliver ever-stronger electric shocks. Pre-recorded screams were played, and just before the highest shock was to be given, the learner fell silent.

**Result:** In one experiment, 65 per cent of "teachers" obeyed all orders, right up to the end.

### A modern Milgram

Patrick Haggard and colleagues, 2016

**EXPERIMENTER**

In one study, an experimenter stood over the subject and told her which key to press — a little nudge that proved to have a clear impact on subject's actions. In another, the experimenter looked away and let the subjects decide for themselves.

**SUBJECT**

**SUBJECT**

**STUDY TITLE: COERCION CHANGES THE SENSE OF AGENCY IN THE HUMAN BRAIN**

**Method:** This experiment had no element of secrecy. The research subjects sat across from each other with a keyboard between them with two keys: One delivered a painful (but not dangerous) electric shock, while the other did nothing. Some subjects were told to deliver shocks (which earned them a small financial reward), and others were given free choice as to whether to deliver them or not.

**Result:** The research subjects who were ordered by the lab assistant to deliver shocks were significantly more likely to do so.

**MILGRAM'S MACHINE** The imposing (and entirely fake) contraption Milgram used was marked with levels ranging from 15 volts, labelled "slight shock," up to 450 volts ("Danger: severe shock"). Among his hundreds of human guinea pigs, many later reported either discomfort or confusion, but a few suffered more serious effects — even a heart attack and seizures. Some experts have even argued what Milgram did meets the definition of torture under international law.

The late Stanley Milgram is an authority, albeit an extremely controversial one, in the world of psychology.

The average social psychology textbook devotes eight pages to his work, and interest in it is growing exponentially.

The question of why good, or at least normal, people sometimes do others harm has eternal appeal. It's easy to see why: If we understand that, couldn't we understand, for example, why some children are bullies, or why some

people become terrorists?

Investigating that question is more complicated than it seems, says St. Thomas University psychology professor Ian Nicholson, a critic of Milgram-style experiments old and new.

"Milgram came out of an era — which hasn't completely ended — where there was a dream of being able to develop a level of exactitude toward human nature akin to the certainty we have in the natural sciences," Nicholson says,

"We'd know definitively why people become bad."

Drawing conclusions about the Holocaust from people's behaviour in a lab is a logical leap too far, he argues.

Unlike research subjects, perpetrators of atrocities knew exactly what they were doing, and believed it was right. And that's the key distinction,

Nicholson says.

He likens Milgram's lab to an "unusual space" like a magician's

stage. You might be asked to volunteer to take a saw to someone, and it might be socially acceptable to do it. But that wouldn't make you an axe murderer. Everyone knows "Kooky, goofy, weird stuff goes on" in psych labs, he says, and people "roll with it."

In the Milgram 2.0 experiments, there was no decep-

tion. Participants knew they were dishing out real pain, and they continued. Author Patrick Haggard told *Nature*, "Your sense of responsibility is reduced whenever someone orders you to do something."

Still, this took place in a lab. It's hard to make a case, Nicholson says, that the results are "generalizable." What he suggests instead is less electrifying: Consult historical records, and if you want to understand people who've done horrible things, talk to them.

## FASCINATING FINDS OF THE WEEK

### ATTRACTIVE IDEA

For years, techies have dreamt of Magnetic Random Access Memory, a data-storage method so sturdy that in-progress essays would survive power outages; so efficient, phones would last days. Until now the method (which involves reversing the spin of electrons) required a huge blast of electricity. But Dutch researchers have found a workaround: bending the electric current with a sort of anti-magnet.

### FOR THE GATOR GOOD

Nesting birds in the Everglades tend to live near alligators' lairs. The reptiles are handy bodyguards against raccoons and other predators who like to snatch eggs and chicks. Now there's new evidence, published in the journal *PLOS One*, of why alligators dig this arrangement. Wading birds lay more eggs than they can raise, and they get rid of extra chicks by pushing them out of the nest. Alligators snack on the surplus.

## SOUND SMART



**A hypothesis**, now confirmed, for why island coasts are more biodiverse than open oceans: Currents around islands dredge up nutrient-rich water that nourishes phytoplankton, which provide food for invertebrates and fish, which attract sea birds — and presto! Coral reef.

**Genna Buck**

### Citizen Scientist

## Should I try cutting wheat, dairy or eggs out of my child's diet?

### QUESTION

**My four-year-old gets frequent tummy aches. Other parents swear by eliminating irritating foods — wheat, dairy, eggs, etc. Does that actually work?**  
**Andrea in Halifax**

Dear Andrea,

I can't address your child's issues from here in Toronto, and also I'm not a health

professional. Get thee to your family doctor! Not Dr. Google. The dietary-advice industry is a duck pond: It's full of quacks.

To your question: Yes, elimination diets (i.e. dairy-free) have their place for children with an allergy (diagnosed by a doctor, usually with a skin test), or an intolerance (such as lactose intolerance and others).

A study out of Umeå University in Sweden this week

looked at food allergies and parent-identified hypersensitivities in 2,585 seven- and eight-year-olds. Just 0.6 per cent showed evidence of reactions to at least one basic food (milk, eggs, fish or wheat). But eight times as many had parents who said they were allergic to one of those things. Years later, many of the kids were still on restricted diets, though the majority had

either outgrown their allergy or intolerance (many do), or never had it in the first place.

Dieticians will tell you growing kids should enjoy a variety of foods. Without a good medical reason, they'd rarely advise cutting a whole category like dairy, which for all its faults is rich in calcium and protein.

**Science question?** Email [scene@metronews.ca](mailto:scene@metronews.ca)

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## Gerard Butler: The actor we love to hate



Gerard Butler is looking to redeem his bad movie rap with *London Has Fallen*, which opens this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

### ANALYSIS

#### Good looks, acting chops and bad movie role choices

**Richard Crouse**  
For Metro Canada



Last week as I fought traffic en route to a *London Has Fallen* screening, I tweeted from the back of a cab, "Out of my way people! I'm running late for a Gerard Butler movie!" It was a silly little joke, a comment to kill time as we idled in the morning rush hour.

The first response came in right away: "said no one, ever," followed by a torrent of unexpected Butler hate.

One person called him a "bouncer actor," whatever that means.

Another questioned his ability to effectively disguise his native Scottish accent and many people offered me their condolences.

Why the Butler bashing?

It's true he is a frustrating movie star. He shares the usual leading man traits that have made Brad Pitt and Leonardo DiCaprio superstars.

He's handsome, talented and built like an action star but he's been done in time after time by poor choices.

Pitt makes *Fight Club*, Butler makes *Law Abiding Citizen*. Leo stars in *The Departed*, Gerard



### MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

**Zootopia** ★★★  
**London Has Fallen** ★★★  
**Whiskey Tango Foxtrot** ★★★  
**The Legend of Barney Thomson** ★★★

**HOW RATING WORKS**  
★★★★ SEE IT  
★★★ WORTHWHILE  
★★ UP TO YOU  
★ SKIP IT

does *Machine Gun Preacher*. Years ago the website Gawker placed Butler on movie star probation, calling him a "professional bad decision maker" alongside notable career fritters Cuba Gooding Jr. and John Travolta. A look at his IMDB page suggests they were on to something.

He's a utility player, comfortable switching genres the way most of us change our socks. One minute he's a romantic

comedy star, the next he's choking out bad guys on screen. He's flirted with Shakespeare and provided voices for cartoons.

He's done sci-fi flicks, musicals and even a rendering of the Anglo-Saxon epic poem *Beowulf*.

It's not like he hasn't enjoyed some very big hits. In *300* he (and his meticulously crafted six-pack) played King Leonidas, a Spartan who led 300 soldiers against the might of the Persian army.

It's the film equivalent of a heavy metal concert — loud, brutal and completely uncompromising — and it made him an action hero.

People have a soft spot for *Dear Frankie*, his breakout film and the one that turned him into a heartthrob with serious dramatic chops. The four-hankie U.K. tear-jerker about a single mother who resorts to trickery to keep the memory of her late husband alive in her son's mind put Butler on the world stage.

Other box office bonanzas include playing a charming mobster in the violent Guy Ritchie flick *RocknRolla* and voicing Viking Stoick the Vast in *How to Train Your Dragon*.

It's the other stuff that seems to rub people the wrong way. As a movie reviewer I can at-

test there are few English language words more terrifying than "New Gerard Butler Romantic Comedy" and I think it is those films that turned my Twitter followers against him.

He's a good actor but his track record in the rom-com department is particularly grim.

Critics hate these movies, calling the handsome Scottish actor's attempts at mixing love and comedy, "instantly grating," and "embarrassingly limited."

But I come to praise Butler, not to bury him. Let's give him another chance.

I made it to the *London Has Fallen* screening and can tell you it's a pretty good action movie. Perhaps even good enough to erase the memory of *The Ugly Truth* or *Playing for Keeps* from our collective memories.



90s to now

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FEUD

## Simone estate slams casting call in biopic

If there was any doubt about how Nina Simone's family feels about the upcoming biopic starring Zoe Saldana, recent social media posts make it clear they are not pleased.

A fresh round of criticism for the film erupted after the trailer and poster for Nina were unveiled Wednesday.

Saldana posted a quote from the singer and civil rights activist on Twitter, and Simone's estate responded with: "Cool story but please take Nina's name out your mouth. For the rest of your life."

Simone's daughter and others have decried the choice to cast a light-skinned actress as the African-American activist since Saldana took the part in 2012. Her skin was apparently darkened for the role.

At the time, Simone's daughter, Simone Kelly, said: "Appearance-wise this is not the best choice."

"My mother was raised at a time when she was told her nose was too wide, her skin was too dark," Kelly told the New York Times in a 2012 interview.

The Simone estate tweeted Wednesday: "Hopefully

people begin to understand this is painful. Gut-wrenching, heartbreaking, nauseating, soul-crushing. It shall pass, but for now..."

The singer's estate co-operated with producers of the Netflix documentary What Happened, Miss Simone? which was nominated for an Oscar this year.

Robert L. Johnson, founder and chairman of the studio releasing Nina, describes Saldana's performance as "an exceptional and mesmerizing tribute."

"She gave her heart and soul to the role and displayed her extraordinary talent," he said in a statement Thursday.

"The most important thing is that creativity or quality of performance should never be judged on the basis of colour, or ethnicity, or physical likeness."

Representatives for Saldana and the Simone estate did not respond to requests for comment Thursday.

RLJ Entertainment will release Nina in theatres, digital HD and video on demand on April 22. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# War correspondent's book comes to big screen

INTERVIEW

## Author's life made into a movie starring Tina Fey

**Richard Crouse**  
For Metro Canada

"To be a good journalist you have to be a bit of a chameleon," says Kim Barker. "You have to be accepting of different cultures, different languages and different situations. I have always been the kind of person who feels like they can go into any situation and fit in."

In real life, Barker is a journalist who worked at the Chicago Tribune as a reporter and volunteered to become a foreign correspondent in Afghanistan and Pakistan. In reel life, she's played by Tina Fey in *Whiskey Tango Foxtrot* as an expatriate television journalist addicted to the rush of living and working in a war zone.

*Whiskey Tango Foxtrot* plays like *Animal House* with warlords, or maybe *Fear and Loathing in Afghanistan*, but Barker describes the reality of her time there in more poetic terms.

"In Afghanistan everything looks like a picture," says Barker. "Everything is so beautiful. The people are beautiful. The landscape is beautiful. You are surrounded by mountains when you're in Kabul. (The people) are very friendly, very direct with very good sense of humour. Also Afghanistan has men with long beards and pick up trucks and guns who hate the government. That is familiar to me. I grew up in Montana."

At the beginning of her time



Fey stars in *Whiskey Tango Foxtrot*, based on the book *The Taliban Shuffle* by Barker. HANDOUT

abroad Barker was a fish out of water but soon learned to culturally adapt and love the country.

"I remember on my second trip there meeting a guy who asked if I wanted to go fishing with him. I grew up fishing but fishing in Afghanistan is a little bit different because it usually involved throwing a grenade into the lake and stunning the fish or blowing them out of the water or using generator wires to electrocute them. That just doesn't seem very sporting to me."

Barker's book, *The Taliban Shuffle* came to Tina Fey shortly after a New York Times review mentioned Barker's similarity to the comedic actress.

"Tina Fey saw it," Barker says. "I think her people probably showed it to her or my people. I don't really have people but my agent sent it over to her people. She read the book and within two weeks of that review coming out she pushed Paramount and Lorne Michaels (who produced the movie) to option the book and make it into a movie."

"(People) said, 'Who's going to play you?' I said, 'A smart funny woman in Hollywood,' and everybody was like, 'Tina Fey?' It was everybody's first answer."

Barker describes having her life turned into a film as surreal. "It's hard to even think about,"



**Afghanistan has men with long beards and pick up trucks and guns who hate the government. That is familiar to me. I grew up in Montana.**

Kim Barker, journalist

she says, "people seeing this in a theatre. They are going to equate me with Kim Barker even though (that) Kim Barker is a version of me. It's fictionalized."

She says the film screenwriter Robert Carlock told her early on that they would have to "Hollywood this up." Changes to the basic story were made, and when they sent her a final copy of the script in 2014 she couldn't bring herself to read it. Finally her best friend read the script "to make sure it is not going to embarrass you."

"She read it and said, 'It's fine. It's good. It's really good. You're probably not going to like parts of it because it makes you seem more heroic than you think of yourself.' She was absolutely right. I'm not that brave."

CERARD BUTLER AARON ECKHART MORGAN FREEMAN

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THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN



# Knowing that Downton was soon to end, I got curious. Have Anna and Bates found happiness at long last?

likes of Mr. Carson.

Over six seasons, the British drama has chronicled the lives lived both upstairs and downstairs in the Georgian-era country home. Simon and I used to watch Downton together. But when plots started to approximate soap operas in both length and content — Anna and Mr. Bates have to be two of the unluckiest characters ever on TV — no amount of tea cups, gorgeous Edwardian costuming and posh accents could help make the show feel more than a guilty pleasure. We tuned out.

But knowing that Downton was soon to end, I got curious. What has Mrs. Patmore been cooking up in the kitchen? Did Lady Sybil come back from the dead? Have Anna and Bates found happiness at long last? So I read some episode recaps, skipped straight ahead to Season 6, and breathed a sigh of relief to see that the Dowager Countess, played by Dame Maggie



Smith, hadn't lost her penchant for acerbic aphorisms.

It looks like Thomas Barrow, "the most consistent plotter of nefarious schemes for nearly all six seasons of the show," as Vulture recently put it, may have atoned for past sins and be redeemed. And yes, there are still over-the-top sensational moments: in Episode 5 Lord Grantham's ulcer takes a turn for the worse and he literally starts spewing blood from his

mouth during dinner.

But I did my catching up solo: Simon refused to return to Downton. So on Sunday night I'll tune in with an alone-time dinner. That's what I call a meal I'd never make for anyone else but me: simple food you'd be embarrassed to serve — even to your judgement-free partner — on account of it not approximating what most of us think of as dinner. For me, this is a green salad with

thin slices of raw, red onion, some tangy goat cheese and a lemon dressing served alongside a big fat piece of baguette with butter and a crisp, dry white wine.

I already know how I want Downton to end. Imagine we flash forward to today when tour groups are being lead through the seemingly endless rooms by the current owners. They make their money by opening up the home; is a bit of meta realism considering this is how most of England's great country estates survive today — including Highclere Castle which doubles as Downton. A little boy on the tour notices a photo on the wall of Lady Mary. "What happened to her?" he will ask. The new Lord will explain, and so on so forth, until the sepia-toned portraits of a vanished era have yielded lives fully lived. "All life is a series of problems which we must try and solve, first one and then the next and then the next," as the Dowager said, "until at last we die."

But I'm not holding my breath.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

DO A 'W' TAKE

After six seasons, people get it: The name is Downton Abbey. Not 'Downtown' Abbey. So why not a less risky title for the series? Julian Fellowes explains:

"I have always been rather an admirer of my great-grandfather, Professor John Wrightson, 1840-1916, who was an experimental agriculturalist. "His eldest brother, Sir Thomas Wrightson, Bart., of Neasham Hall in Yorkshire, had done great things in the world of steel and their aunt was married to Lord Armstrong, the British Krupp of armaments, but John was more interested in farming.

"He had an estate in Wiltshire called Charford Manor and I thought of calling the series 'Charford Abbey,' but we decided it was too near Cranford, and so we settled on 'Downton' after Downton College of Agriculture which Wrightson founded in 1880 and which, for a quarter of a century, was at the forefront of agricultural innovation."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OUT OF CHARACTER

## After Downton Abbey: Some killer new roles for the cast

What's happening to certain Downton Abbey stars is downright criminal.

Joanne Froggatt, pictured below, the TV drama's vulnerable Anna Bates, is morphing into a 19th-century serial killer in PBS' Dark Angel.



Michelle Dockery, seen at center, who plays coolly elegant Lady Mary in Downton, is a sleazy American ex-convict in TNT's Good Behavior. And Kevin Doyle, the good-hearted Mr. Mole, is a bad-hearted police detective in Netflix's Happy Valley.

The end of PBS's Downton Abbey after six seasons means

new career paths for its stars, with both the upstairs and downstairs crew embracing change-of-pace roles — although devoted viewers may want to enshrine them forever as their beloved characters.

"Anybody who's watched and loved Downton is going to remember these characters for the rest of their lives," said executive producer Gareth Neame. But cast members "can't put a pin in their career and say that's it."

British actors are especially keen on variety and like



"to move away from things they've been previously successful with," Neame said.

Froggatt said change is part of acting's allure.

"After playing a role that you've loved playing for years, there is a certain part of you that goes, 'I fancy doing something a bit different,'" she said.

After Sunday's Downton Abbey finale, here's where to find its former gentry and servants:

**Hugh Bonneville** (Lord Grantham): Possibly the actor staying closest to his Downton pedigree, he plays Lord Louis Mountbatten in the Indian independence movie

Viceroy's House.

**Laura Carmichael** (Lady Edith): Takes on a sibling role again in the 1940s history-based romance, A United Kingdom, introducing her sister to her future husband, an African prince.

**Brendan Coyle** (John Bates): Plays English politician Augustine Birrell in the historical Irish film drama The Rising. Also in the romantic movie Me Before You, based on the novel by Jojo Moyes.

**Elizabeth McGovern** (Lady Cora): Writing and recording her fourth album with the band Sadie and the Hotheads.

In April, starting rehearsals at the National Theatre in London for Sunset at the Villa Thalia.

**Allen Leech** (Tom Branson), pictured below: In the film Hunter's Prayer, based on Kevin Wignall's novel For the Dogs, Leech plays the former boss of a hired assassin whose assignment goes awry.



**Penelope Wilton** (Isobel Crawley): As lonely wife Pauline in the upcoming British TV series Brief Encounters, set in the 1980s, Wilton is one of four women whose lives are changed when they start selling exotic lingerie at house parties.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Thousands of years on ice

## ATLANTIC CANADA

### Newfoundland's Iceberg Alley is full of great white wonder

Nature's frozen carvings drift through Iceberg Alley each spring and summer but early arrivals near Newfoundland's eastern shores have already lit up social media.

Eric Abbott did a double take in mid-January when he first saw a giant slab off Elliston, N.L. Since then, his photos of it and another water-sculpted berg off the pretty coastal town of Bonavista have drawn admirers from around the province and beyond.

"Most of the time I've seen them in March or April," he said in an interview. "There's people saying 'Eric, you think they'll be there in March month?' I say: 'My darling, the one in Elliston is grounded, it's only shifting back and forth. I allow it'll be there in August.'"

Many Newfoundlanders who posted photos of an iceberg spotted in mid-February off Signal Hill in St. John's said it's the earliest they

can remember big ice showing up.

Byron Briggs, superintendent of Atlantic region ice operations for the Canadian Coast Guard, said it's not unusual to have icebergs off Newfoundland's east coast this time of year.

"The difference being this time, some of them are close enough to shore for people to see. In 2014 there were definitely more bergs than there are now, but most of them were about 100 miles off."

Only ships out to sea would have caught a glimpse, Briggs said in an interview. Icebergs have to be within about 20 kilometres of shore to be visible from land, he added.

Gabrielle McGrath, commander of the United States Coast Guard International Ice Patrol, has

done recent surveillance flights over the region. The patrol was formed after the Titanic disaster in 1912, and works with Canadian partners to track icebergs in North Atlantic shipping lanes.

More than 20 bergs have so far been spotted in those lanes and many more originating

from Greenland glaciers are heading south, McGrath said in an interview.

"It's hard to give a prediction exactly, but I think there is a potential to have a decent amount of icebergs this year."

McGrath said an interesting weather pattern of cold and warm spells combined with storm systems help explain a few things. "Some of the bergs have been pushed onshore maybe a little earlier than they would in the past."

Icebergs photographed close to Newfoundland and Labrador coastlines in past years have reached 45 metres in



An iceberg near Bonavista, N.L. on Feb. 13. THE CANADIAN PRESS

height while long, flat tabular giants have been estimated at five kilometres in length or more. Waves mould them into spectacular shapes that resemble cathedrals, pyramids and glass archways streaked

with blue — and sometimes running with waterfalls. They are believed to be at least 12,000-year-old specimens of pure water.

Cecil Stockley, owner and operator of Iceberg Man tours in Twillingate on Newfoundland's northeast coast, takes groups out starting in May. In recent years he has hosted visitors from across North and Central America and as far away as Russia, China and Japan. "They come looking for icebergs," he said.

To avoid disappointment, Stockley urges tourists to check in with local operators before they make the trip.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

#### + IF YOU GO

For tips on travel to Newfoundland and Labrador go to [newfoundlandlabrador.com](http://newfoundlandlabrador.com)

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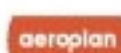
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TIPS

# How to save a bundle on spring break vacation

This year, spring break will be a tricky affair for some, with the school break at some schools coinciding with an early Easter weekend. But travel experts have a few insider tips on how to save a few bucks for your winter getaway.

According to analysts at flight tracker Hopper, the best days to book a flight are Monday to Wednesdays, when flyers can save up to 25 per cent on their airfare, compared to flights scheduled for Thursday to Saturdays.

And though tempting, budget-conscious travellers are advised to forget Friday departures, which are the most expensive.

Here are a few other tips:

## Spring break shoulder

If you can, try booking a trip in early March or late April to avoid the most expensive times to travel.

March Breaks that spill over to Easter are, predictably, the most expensive, posting a 45 per cent premium. The week of March 23, and April 6 are



Keeping a few tips in mind will help you save and have fun over spring break. ISTOCK

the second and third most expensive weeks.

## Book now

The longer you wait, the more expensive the flight will be.

How much more? Booking less than two weeks in advance adds 33 per cent to the ticket price. Booking within three days? That will cost you 66 per cent more.

## Monitor prices

In addition to the Hopper app

which predicts drops in airfare, other flight tracking apps and sites include Airfare Watchdog, Skyscanner, Momondo and Google Flights.

It may also be worth signing up for alerts to low-budget airlines such as JetBlue, EasyJet, AirAsia, Ryanair, and the newest players on the block, Norwegian Air and WOW Air, which have been selling transatlantic one-way fares for as little as \$99 U.S.

AFF

## TRAVEL NOTES OUTSIDER ART, CAMPER VANS, CACTUS LEAGUE

### Outsider art museum opens in The Netherlands

A museum of outsider art is opening March 17 as part of the Hermitage Amsterdam in the Netherlands. Outsider art is art created by self-taught artists, unknowns and others outside the art establishment. It is also variously referred to as folk art, art brut and raw art. The new venture is a project of the Het Dolhuys in Haarlem, a museum of psychiatry, in partnership with other organizations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The Hermitage Amsterdam will feature a museum of outsider art. ISTOCK

### Company rents out VW campers

Planning a road trip in a camper? Consider a set of old-school wheels. A Seattle-based company, Peace Vans Rentals, has fully restored Volkswagen camper vans, all Westfalia models built between 1987 and 1991. They sleep up to four adults and come with a built-in stove, sink and storage space. Included with the rental are cookware, utensils and headlamps, and a French press.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Peace Van Rentals has restored old-school campers. HANDOUT

### Behold the Cactus League games

Arizona is getting ready for spring training season. Fifteen Major League Baseball teams play around the Phoenix metropolitan area as part of what's called the Cactus League. Spring training in Arizona has been a tradition since the 1940s when the Cleveland Indians and the New York Giants were the only teams that practiced there. The games run through April 2 in advance of MLB's opening day, April 3.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Yu Darvish at training. FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

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"Yeah, I don't care": LeBron James' reaction to those who are upset about his recent visit with Dwyane Wade in Miami

## Halifax hoop dreams

### AUS BASKETBALL

### Men's, women's championships start today, run through Sunday

**Dylan DesRoche**  
For Metro

It's tip-off time in Halifax.

The 2016 Atlantic University Sport basketball championships start Friday, with the six best men's teams and six best women's teams from across the region battling it out at the Scotiabank Centre through Sunday.

"You're going to the best basketball and the best basketball environment in the country," AUS president Kevin Dickie said Thursday of what fans can expect from this weekend's action.

This is the second time the men's and women's finals are being held simultaneously, in what Dickie hopes will be a showcase of Canada's top elite young basketball players.

"Next to the (Toronto) Raptors and the national program, this is the best basketball you're



The Saint Mary's Huskies women celebrate their AUS championship last year. JEFF HARPER/METRO

going to see in this country," said Dickie, who is also Acadia University's athletic director and chairman of women's basketball for the AUS conference.

Originally, merging the men's and women's tournaments was done to help boost the profile of the women's game, Dickie said, but now the ladies of the

court are attracting just as many fans as the men's game does.

"It's nice to celebrate basketball, regardless of the gender," Dickie said.

To help with this weekend's festivities, Will Njoku, a Saint Mary's Huskies basketball legend, will serve as the honorary chairman of this year's championships.

Njoku spent his entire AUS career with the Huskies, and was named the top university player in the country in 1993. He has also taken to the court with Team Canada, at both the 1994 and 1998 FIBA world championships.

Njoku is trying not to turn his honorary chairman gig into too big of a deal since he's

just looking forward to enjoying the weekend.

"It's really cool to be a part of it," he said Thursday.

"I'm really looking forward to seeing the girls play. I'm a really big fan of the WNBA.

"The women's game is growing," Dickie said. "I've really started paying attention to it over the last five years."

The former AUS first team all-star did have some advice for the players competing for AUS basketball bragging rights this weekend.

"Watch the games, watch each other play," Dickie said. "Don't just focus on your team; you should enjoy the fact really great teams are playing each other as well."

The men's AUS championship-winning team advances to the CIS Final 8 championship, hosted by the University of British Columbia in Vancouver from March 17-20.

The women's champions move on to their Final 8 championship, March 17-20 at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. As hosts, the UNB Varsity Reds receive an automatic berth into the tournament.

WITH FILES FROM  
KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO

### AWARDS

#### Conference's best honoured at banquet

Atlantic Canada's best were honoured Thursday night at a downtown Halifax banquet.

Third-year UNB guard Javon Masters was named Atlantic University Sport's most valuable player on the men's side, while third-year Acadia guard Paloma Anderson received the same honour on the women's side.

Other major award winners in the men's game include rookie of the year Jordan Aquino-Serjue of Dalhousie, defensive player of the year Meshack Lufule of Cape Breton and student-athlete community award service winner Shaquille Smith of Acadia. Rick Plato of Dalhousie was named AUS coach of the year.

The other shining stars of the women's game include rookie of the year Chelsea Provo of St. Francis Xavier, defensive player of the year Kennisha-Shanice Luberisse of Saint Mary's and student-athlete community service award winner Ainsley MacIntyre of Dalhousie.

Also, Rachelle Coward of Saint Mary's was nominated for the Tracey MacLeod Award, while the Huskies' Scott Munro received coach of the year honours for the second time in his career.

Visit [AUSHoops.ca](http://AUSHoops.ca) or [AtlanticUniversitySport.com](http://AtlanticUniversitySport.com) for more.

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO

### TOURNAMENT SCHEDULES

#### WOMEN

##### Friday

(5) UPEI vs. (4) UNB, 1 p.m.  
(6) Dalhousie vs.  
(3) Cape Breton, 3 p.m.

#### Saturday

Winner QF1 vs. (1) Saint Mary's, 1 p.m.  
Winner QF2 vs. (2) Acadia, 3 p.m.

#### Sunday

Winner SF1 vs. Winner SF2, 1 p.m.

##### MEN

##### Friday

(5) Saint Mary's vs. (4) UNB,

6:30 p.m.

(6) Cape Breton vs. (3) Acadia, 8:30 p.m.

#### Saturday

Winner QF1 vs. (1) Dalhousie,

6:30 p.m.

Winner QF2 vs. (2) UPEI, 8:30 p.m.

#### Sunday

Winner SF1 vs. Winner SF2, 4:30 p.m.

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# Leafs welcome back Dion

NHL

## Ex-teammates vouch for former C's likability

Dion Phaneuf returns Saturday to the Air Canada Centre as a member of the Ottawa Senators.

The response is sure to be muted from a crowd — silent at the best of times — that never fully warmed to the defenceman. He was no guts-and-glory Wendel Clark. He was no dazzling Doug Gilmour. He was no calm-but-wow Mats Sundin.

Phaneuf, a lightning rod for

malcontent Leaf fans, was a symbol of all that went wrong during his tenure as captain. Phaneuf was an easy target and, as a result, perhaps one of the most misunderstood Maple Leafs.

"Probably in history," said Peter Holland. "We all loved Dion. He was a big personality in our room. It seems a lot quieter

around here without him."

After a game in Washington this week, ex-Leaf Phil Kessel — now with the Penguins — revisited his famous rant when he defended Phaneuf from media attacks.

"He was misunderstood in Toronto," said Kessel. "A lot of times he wasn't treated fairly by the media and the fans. You guys have to tell me why. A lot of it is media-driven."

Win or lose, Phaneuf would barely show any emotion when addressing

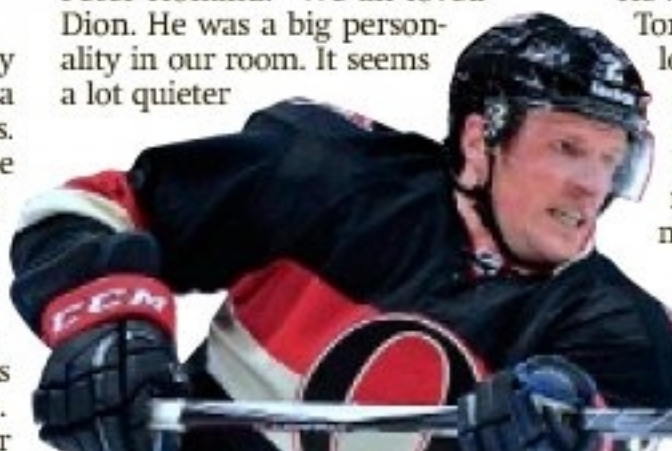
fans through the media. But that wasn't the real Phaneuf.

"That was a persona he had to put on as captain, having that spotlight, having that attention," said Nazem Kadri. "You don't want to be saying the wrong thing when you're captain, being scrutinized, having things taken out of context. He was very conscious about that."

"He was a super-energetic guy to hang out with. Always laughing. Jokes. He was serious when things had to be done. He was the first one to get down to business."

**Dion Phaneuf**  
THE CANADIAN PRESS

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



## IN BRIEF

### Price predicts return to Habs

Montreal Canadiens goaltender Carey Price is optimistic he'll be able to play again this season, although he isn't saying when he might rejoin his teammates on the ice.

Price has been out with a lower-body injury since Nov. 25 and has seen the Canadiens drift out of playoff contention after they started the year with nine consecutive victories.

The Habs entered their contest against the Los Angeles Kings on Thursday night with 18 games left and a host of teams to leapfrog to make the playoffs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Pistorius appeal dismissed

South Africa's highest court has dismissed Oscar Pistorius's appeal of his murder conviction, a lawyer said Thursday, signalling that the former track star's long legal battle since he killed girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp may be drawing to a close.

The ruling by the constitutional court clears the way for a judge to sentence the double-amputee runner for murder at a hearing scheduled for April 18.

The minimum sentence for murder in South Africa is 15 years.

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<b>Theresa Harvey</b>	<b>Unit #1156</b>
<b>Haldon Ritch</b>	<b>Unit #1106</b>
<b>Johnathan Carroll</b>	<b>Unit #1029</b>

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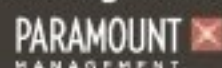
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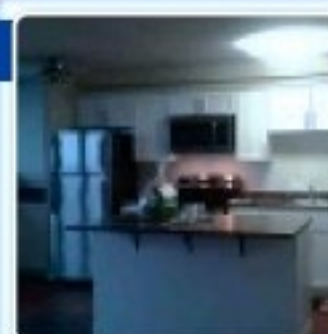
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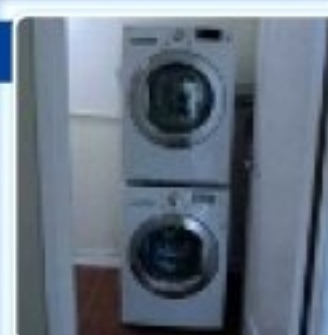
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## RECIPE Protein Pancakes with Cottage Cheese



PHOTO: MAYA VISNVEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**  
For Metro Canada



• Butter for pan

### Directions

1. In a large mixing bowl, stir together the flour, baking soda, sea salt and cinnamon.
2. In a separate bowl, whisk the eggs, cottage cheese, milk and oil.
3. Add the egg mixture to the flour and whisk until just combined.
4. Heat a large skillet or griddle over medium high heat and then toss in a pat of butter. Working in batches, form each pancake by pouring about 1/4 cup of batter into the pan. Cook pancakes until they are golden brown and bubbles break on the surface; then flip. Allow to cook through, about another minute. Serve with either maple syrup or a spoonful of Greek yogurt and honey.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT  
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If you love breakfast for dinner (it's our favourite) then prepare to have your mind blown. These pancakes deliver, wait for it, a nice dose of protein thank you to the addition of cottage cheese. Also, did we mention they are pancakes?

### Ready in

Prep time: 5 minutes  
Total time: 30 minutes

**Makes 6 pancakes**

### Ingredients

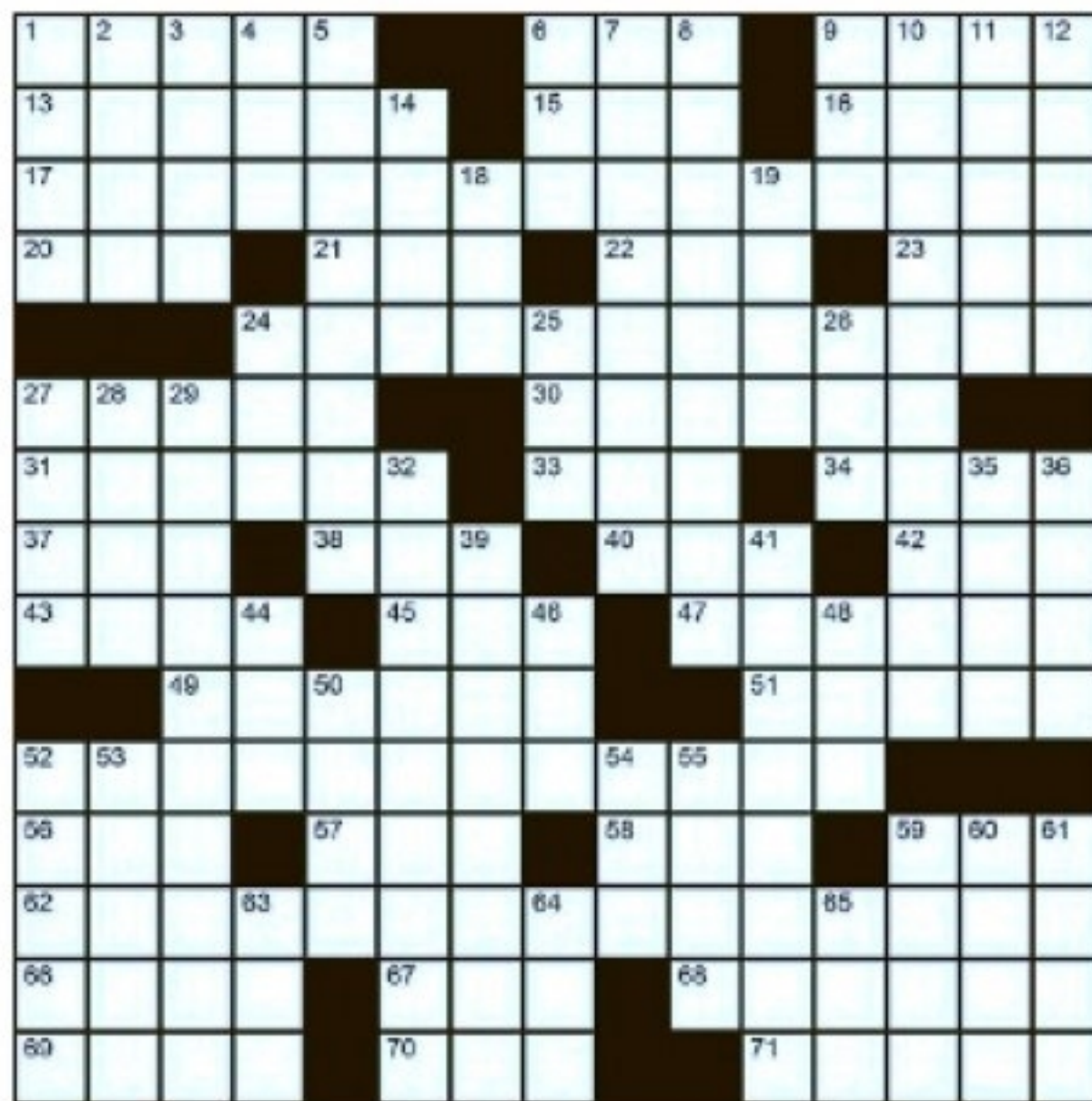
- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 tsp fine sea salt
- 1/4 tsp cinnamon
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup low-fat cottage cheese
- 3/4 cup low-fat milk
- 2 Tbsp vegetable oil

## CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

### ACROSS

1. A. & Co. Productions (Company-with-a-Canadian-co-founder behind the show at #52-Across)
6. Soul: French
9. Disapproves
13. Couch potato's dinner table: 2 wds.
15. Mr. Brooks
16. Juice berry
17. Canadian Forces... Meritorious Service Cross and General Campaign Star: 2 wds.
20. Poetic contraction
21. Sing-y syllable
22. Vintage record label
23. "Mir Bist Du Schon" by The Andrews Sisters
24. Popular palettes in interior decor now: 2 wds.
27. Gladiator's 553
30. RSVP 'yes'
31. Country singer Lee Ann
33. Avril's Sk8er's gender
34. Window part
37. Bon\_ (High society)
38. Kit \_
40. 'Proto' suffix (Amoebae, and kin)
42. Compete
43. Predicament
45. Wee weekday
47. LA Dodgers division: acr. + wd.
49. \_ and tribulations
51. Ms. Flynn Boyle's
52. As per #1-Across...



Culinary reality show for Chef Gordon Ramsay: 2 wds.  
56. 'Human' suffix  
57. European peak  
58. Demure  
59. Trendy  
62. Really cold temperature: 3 wds.

66. Spa service, \_-pedi  
67. Position  
68. Savoured  
69. Belonging to London's wee country  
70. ER pros  
71. Alison Moyet's "Don't Go" duo

### DOWN

1. Bank \_
2. Ancient 1007
3. " \_ cost ya!"
4. Prefix to 'angle'
5. Magical feat for Wayne Gretzky: 2 wds.
6. Ms. Poehler

7. Television doctor: 2 wds.  
8. Public speaking strength  
9. Universal ideal  
10. One admiring a coral reef at great depth: 2 wds.  
11. R.U.R. playwright

Mr. Capek  
12. Oui ouis ...in Barcelona: 2 wds.  
14. Lively  
18. Mr. Liotta  
19. Mr. Berkus  
24. Angelina Jolie role  
25. Capture  
26. Ward workers, wee-ly  
27. Tom Bergeron hosts it [acronym]  
28. Ribbon bow part  
29. "Hey, that's the truth!": 3 wds.  
32. 'Of Ghosts and Gods' metal band from Montreal  
35. Ms. Kudrow  
36. Allows  
39. Where a gardener might plant bulbs: 2 wds.  
41. Back street  
44. Li'l old MTV show  
46. Ballpark fig.  
48. Pallid  
50. Time \_ a premium  
52. Player's call in blackjack: 2 wds.  
53. Mr. Hawke  
54. Nero's 250  
55. Laugh-a-minute  
59. "Eraser" Canadian noise/punk band  
60. Nabisco's famous treat  
61. Extinct bird of Mauritius  
63. ' \_ ' for Rimouski  
64. Sci-Fi movie extras  
65. Ms. Gabor, for short

## \* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

### Aries March 21 - April 20

An offer may seem attractive but don't commit yourself too quickly. Consider the pros and cons before deciding whether or not it is the right move for you. Opportunities are like buses — there will always be another.

### Taurus April 21 - May 21

Be on your guard when dealing with people one-to-one. You may not be the sort who gives your trust too easily but some people can be very persuasive. Don't let them sway you.

### Gemini May 22 - June 21

Why are you so defensive? Every time someone says something you take it as a personal slight. You're overreacting but this phase won't last long. You'll forget about it soon.

### Cancer June 22 - July 23

You are tired from the constant running around you've been doing but you're also pleased by the progress you've made. You'll make more progress today if you slow down and concentrate on one specific aim.

### Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

Some of the changes taking place may not be to your liking but there is nothing you can do about them. You know that, sooner or later, everything works out for the best.

### Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You won't let anyone coerce you into doing things you don't approve of. Now extend your protection to those who cannot look after themselves. Take them under your wing.

### Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Be on your toes where anything of a financial nature is concerned. There is little doubt you will succeed but you will also attract people who think they can get rich at your expense.

### Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You seem to be constantly on the go, no doubt due to Mars, planet of ego and energy, in your birth sign. But even a Scorpio has limits, so slow down and focus on essentials.

### Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Mistakes are a fact of life but if you find yourself making the same mistake over and over you can be sure that something's wrong. The world won't change for you, so you must change in response to the world.

### Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Go all out to make a good impression on those you live and work with today. Creatively and romantically this is a great time for you and if you believe that you deserve to be lucky and loved then you will be.

### Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

If you find it hard to live within your means that is a sign you're doing too many things for too many people — and paying too much for the privilege. How many of your "friends" really care for you? Be ruthless today.

### Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20

No matter how tough the challenge, you will pass with flying colours. You are endowed with the kind of self-belief that can move mountains.

## CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

4			3	8				
	3				2			8
8	2				1	6		
		8				3	1	
		6		9		4		
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				6	9			3

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